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Message Text

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12
ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 SY-05 DODE-00 CCO-00

PM-04 /043 W
---------- 000378
Z O 010820Z MAY 76
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI FLASH
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA FLASH
SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 3030
CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AIR BASE GERMANY IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAKAR IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 5923

DEPT PASS SECRETARY

MONROVIA AND DAKAR FOR SECRETARY

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (ROBINSON, CHARLES)
SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF DEPUTY SECRETARY ROBINSON: EGYPTIAN AIRCRAFT

REF: CAIRO 5873

1. AFTER TELLING US ALL LAST WEEK THAT A PRESIDENTIAL AIRCRAFT WOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO FLY DEPUTY SECRETARY FROM CAIRO TO NAIROBI, AN EMBARRASSED PRESIDENCY OFFICIAL INFORMED US THIS MORNING THAT PRESIDENCY REGRETS THAT NO AIRCRAFT CAN BE MADE AVAILABLE. NEITHER OF THE TWO PRESIDENTIAL MYSTERES, IT TURNS OUT, WILL BE SERVICEABLE. ONE IS IN SAUDI ARABIA WITH AN ENGINE CHANGE REQUIRED; THE OTHER IS OUT OF COMMISSION IN CAIRO. PRESIDENCY EXPLAINED THAT IN ASSURING US EARLIER A MYSTERE WOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE, IT HAD SPOKEN ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT ONE OR THE OTHER OF THE PRESIDENTIAL MYSTERES WOULD BE OPERABLE BY MAY 2. THIS NOW TURNS OUT NOT TO BE THE CASE. PRESIDENCY WAS
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MOST APOLOGETIC AND OFFERED ANY ASSISTANCE IT MIGHT

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BE ABLE TO GIVE IN HELPING ARRANGE DEPUTY SECRETARY'S
ONWARD TRAVEL BY OTHER MEANS, BUT HAD NO SPECIFIC IDEAS.
WE ARE CHECKING ALL AVAILABLE ONWARD TRAVEL OUT OF CAIRO
TO NAIROBI TOMORROW, MAY 2, AND WILL ADVISE SOONEST.

2. AS THIS MESSAGE IS BEING WRITTEN, DEPUTY SECRETARY
IS STILL ENROUTE FROM LUXOR TO CAIRO AND HAS NOT
YET BEEN ADVISED OF ABOVE. WILL ADVISE HIM WHEN
HE ARRIVES IN NEXT HOUR.

3. FOR NAIROBI: IF THERE IS NO FEASIBLE COMMERCIAL FLIGHT OUT
OF CAIRO TOMORROW, IS THERE ANY POSSIBILITY WE MIGHT
PREVAIL UPON KENYANS SEND ONE OF THEIR OFFICIAL AIRCRAFT
TO PICK UP DEPUTY SECRETARY AND FLY HIM TO NAIROBI
MAY 2.

4. FOR WASHINGTON: AS ANOTHER ALTERNATIVE, COULD
DEPARTMENT ARRANGE THROUGH DOD SEND USAF AIRCRAFT
FROM EUROPE TO CAIRO TONIGHT TO FLY DEPUTY SECRETARY
TO NAIROBI TOMORROW. IF SO, ADVISE SOONEST
SO THAT WE MAY ARRANGE NECESSARY FLIGHT CLEARANCES.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 MAY 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976CAIRO05923
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760166-0644
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t197605103/aaaadkhw.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 CAIRO 5873
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 JUN 2004 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <06 OCT 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TRAVEL OF DEPUTY SECRETARY ROBINSON: EGYPTIAN AIRCRAFT
TAGS: OVIP, (ROBINSON, CHARLES)
To: NAIROBI
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006